

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

June 5, 2014

Billy Broussard
CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting
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Tapes of the meetings are kept at the
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.
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AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
June 5, 2014 9:30 AM

PAGE

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of May 1, 2014
3. Commission Special Announcements/Personal Privilege
4. To Hear Enforcement & Aviation Reports May 2014
5. Presentation of Citizens Meritorious Service Awards
6. To Consider a Declaration of Emergency on Setting the
2014-2015 Deer Hunting Season on Private Lands for Honorably
Discharged Veterans
7. To Consider a Resolution of the Inclusion of Additional Acreage to the
Peason Ridge WMA
8. To Consider a Resolution of the Inclusion of Additional Acreage to the
Dewey Wills and Little River WMA
9. To Consider a Declaration of Emergency on Fisheries Closures Due to the BP
Oil Spill
10. To Hear a General Overview of the Upcoming 2014 Dove Season Rules and
Regulations
11. To Have a Discussion on What Effects Changes to the Current Management
Regulations will have on Red Drum and Spotted Sea Trout Stocks
12. To Hear a Report on the LDWF Aquatic Plant Control Program
13. To Consider a Notice of Intent to Increase the Possession Limit for Saltwater
Finfish Landed at Port Eads and Transported to Land
14. Set October 2014 Meeting Date
15. Receive Public Comments
16. Adjournment

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Chairman Billy Broussard presiding

Present:

Billy Broussard

Pat Manuel

Ronny Graham

Ann Taylor

NOT Present:

Ed Swindell

Secretary Barham was also present

Wendy Brogdon Called Roll

Chairman Broussard called for a motion for approval of the **May 1, 2014 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Manuel. Chairman Broussard called for a vote and the motion passed with no opposition.



For the agenda item, **Commission Special Announcements/Personal Privilege**

Chairman Broussard recognized Representative Leopold as a member of the audience in today's meeting



Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Hear Enforcement Reports for May**; to be presented by Major Martin.

There were Seventeen (17) boating accidents reported, Eight (8) injuries and Four (4) Fatalities. There were 792 total cases for the month of May with 346 Written Warnings issued and 45 Public Assistance.

Three (3) News releases were discussed

(1) Violet Man Sentenced for Oyster Violations

A Violet man pleaded guilty today, May 8, in the 34th Judicial District of St. Bernard Parish for oyster violations.

Judge Jean Nunez Juneau accepted the guilty plea from Oliver F. Rudesell Jr., 32, and sentenced him to pay a \$650 fine plus court costs and a 60-day jail term that was suspended.

Rudesell Jr. also must not be on a vessel harvesting oysters, possessing oysters or gear to take oysters for two years unless that vessel is equipped with a vessel monitoring system that is monitored by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents. He was also placed on two years probation with six months being active in which he cannot be caught committing any Class 3 or higher wildlife offenses.

Rudesell Jr. pled guilty to two counts of taking oysters from unleased state water bottoms, and pled no contest to failing to have a commercial license in possession, taking commercial fish without a gear license and taking commercial fish without a vessel license.

The sentence is a result of numerous occasions where Rudesell Jr. was caught by LDWF Enforcement Division Agents for taking oysters from unleased state grounds and license violations in St. Bernard Parish.

The case was prosecuted by Darren Roy for the St. Bernard Parish District Attorney's Office. Agents participating in the case were Capt. Steven McManus, Sgts. Adam Young, Mike Garrity and Villere Reggio and Senior Agent Bret Nabors.

(2) Multiple Fisherman Cited for Commercial Fishing in BP Closure Zone in Plaquemines Parish

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited numerous fishermen on May 26 for allegedly fishing in the BP oil spill emergency commercial fishing closure zone.

Agents cited Kenneth Dupre, 47, Don Allen, 55, Bobbie Slocum, 53, all of Gretna, Lawrence Folse Jr., 62, of Bridge City, Carl Hingle, 50, of Chalmette, Patrick Terrebonne, 39, of Lafitte, Michael A. Duhom, 27, of Marrero, and Manton A. Terrebonne, 57, of Lafitte for engaging in commercial shrimping activity in the area of Bay Jimmy located in Plaquemines parish.

The area in question was closed to all commercial fishing in 2010 as a result of the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill. Agents seized and returned the shrimp taken to the water since they were considered a public health risk to the consuming public.

Violating the emergency fishing closure carries a up to a \$750 fine and 60 days in jail. Agents participating in the case are Sgts. Adam Young, Kris Bourgeois, Villere Reggio, and Austin Arteaga.

(3) Boating Incident in Avoyelles Parish Leads to Fatality and DWI

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division agents are investigating a single vessel incident that claimed the life of a Mansura man on May 25 in Avoyelles Parish. About 6:30 p.m., LDWF agents were notified of a boating incident and a missing boater on the Little River near Marksville. Agents were able to locate the body of David Crocket, 48, around 8 p.m. and turned him over to the Avoyelles Parish Coroner's Office.

According to witnesses and the operator of the boat, Marcus Logan Sr., 43, of Mansura, they were traveling west on Little River and swerved to avoid an object in the water when Crocket fell overboard. Crocket went under the water and never surfaced.

Crocket was not wearing a personal flotation device when he entered the water.

After further investigation, agents determined that Logan Sr. was under the influence of alcohol while operating the vessel and arrested him for driving a vessel while intoxicated (DWI).

Agents also cited Logan Sr. for careless operation of a vessel. Future charges may be pending.

DWI brings a \$300 to \$1,000 fine and up to six months in jail and up to a year suspension of driver's license and boating operation privileges. Careless operation of a vessel carries up to a \$300 fine and 30 days in jail.

Commissioner Manuel asked if the DWI charge and Fines on the water are the same on in a car – Major Martin explained that the rules are the same for both

There were no other comments or questions heard

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **Presentation of Citizens Meritorious Service**, to be presented by Major Martin

Major Martin introduced Ryan Carroll, Caleb Landry and Kyle Dupree

On April 26, 2014 at 5:30pm, these three young men were fishing in a small channel on the Calcasieu River when they heard a collision and ladies screaming. They were the first to respond to the scene. There were three people involved in the collision – the male victim was injured badly and in the water. The men called 911 giving directions to their location while they stayed with the victims. They assisted emergency personnel on the scene and transported one of the female victims back to shore. These young men showed courage, caring and compassion.

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Consider a Declaration of Emergency on Setting the 2014-2015 Deer Hunting Season on Private Lands for Honorably Discharged Veterans**, to be presented by Steve Smith

Mr. Smith stated that this item is in response to HB1284 of the 2014RLS to run concurrently with the open youth season in all zones.

Commissioner Broussard called for questions or Comments. A question was heard from Mr. Larry Robichaux. He asked how many people this law affects. Chairman Broussard answered that it is only on private lands but it is a statewide statute.

There were no other comments or questions heard. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Graham and seconded by Commissioner Manuel. Chairman Broussard called for a vote and the motion passed with no opposition

(The full text of the Declaration is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2014-15 Resident Honorably Discharged Veterans Deer Season on Private Lands

In accordance with the emergency provisions of La. R.S. 49:953 of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of La. R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule:

Currently, special open deer seasons are provided for youth and physically challenged hunters. These seasons are set prior to the opening weekend of regular firearms season. In response to HB 1284 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session, an additional special season will be provided for Louisiana residents who are honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. This season shall run concurrently with the open Youth Season in all zones, and shall be restricted to hunting on private lands.

Therefore, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts adding the following dates for a special Resident Honorably Discharged Veterans Deer Season on private lands:

Areas 1, 4, 5, 6, and 9: Oct. 25-31
Area 2: Oct. 11-17
Areas 3, 7, 8, and 10: Sept. 27-Oct. 3.

This action is being taken pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:953(H), which allows for the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to employ the timetables and provisions utilized for a Declaration of Emergency when promulgating rules and regulations relative to hunting seasons.

Billy Broussard
Chairman

Chairman Broussard announced the next item was to be removed from this month's agenda at the request of WLF.

Commissioner Manuel made a motion to remove the item from the agenda and was second by Commissioner Graham. Chairman Broussard asked Wendy Brogdon to conduct a roll call for each Commissioner to Vote. Each Commissioner, Manuel, Graham, Taylor and Davis all voted to approve the removal of Item #7 from the Agenda

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Consider a Resolution** of the Inclusion of Additional Acreage to the Dewey Wills and Little River WMA, to be presented by Steve Smith

Dewey Wills WMA's new 265 acres have been added through a cooperative management agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE). That addition increases Dewey Wills to 63,901 total acres that also includes land owned by LDWF and the LaSalle Parish School Board. Little River WMA in Grant, LaSalle and Rapides Parishes will add 1,109 acres through a separate USACOE cooperative agreement and the WMA will contain 5,951 total acres.

There were no comments or questions heard. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Graham and seconded by Commissioner Manuel. Chairman Broussard called for a vote and the resolution passed with no opposition

(The full text of this Resolution is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION

Adding Certain Licensed Property to the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area

Adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

- WHEREAS, the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area was established by Proclamation of the Governor, dated October 30, 1964,
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, (LDWF), and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission through a Cooperative Venture Agreement (CVA) with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, (USACE) and the Red River Waterway Commission, (RRWC), have received a license to manage and maintain a certain tract of land comprising of 265.00 acres situated in LaSalle and Rapides Parishes and herein referred to as the Dewey W. Wills Mitigation Project Area.
- WHEREAS, this property contains valuable wildlife habitat and its protection and proper management is critical to the State's conservation and wildlife management efforts,
- WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that in order to enhance the wildlife habitat in the state and provide for public use and recreational opportunities on these 265.00 acres of lands, including water bottoms, that they be selected and established as a wildlife management area and included in the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area, established by Proclamation of the Governor, dated October 30, 1964,
- WHEREAS, it is the further recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission confirm and reaffirm that all state owned lands, including water bottoms, located within the property description of the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area, described in the Governor's Proclamation dated October 30, 1964, were previously selected and established as the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area.
- WHEREAS, it is the further recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission select all State owned lands, including water bottoms, located within the 265.00 acre Dewey W. Wills Mitigation Project Area and all adjacent state owned water bottoms, be established as a wildlife management area and included in the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana, particularly Title 56, Section 109 and Section 781 et seq. of the Revised Statutes of 1954, does hereby confirm and reaffirm the selection and

establishment of the Dewey W. Wills Mitigation Project Area, and select all land, including water bottoms, licensed on June 1, 2014 including adjacent lands and water bottoms owned by the state, and establish such lands, including water bottoms, as a wildlife management area to be added to and included in the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area, so that all land including water bottoms described in Exhibit A hereto, and identified on the attached map, (Exhibit B), including water bottoms, are included in the Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this property shall be used exclusively for wildlife management purposes, and as such, is perpetually dedicated to the protection, conservation, and management of fish and wildlife and their habitat, and such public recreation, including, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, and trapping, which is consistent with these purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, on behalf of the Commission, to take all actions necessary in furtherance of this resolution.

Billy Broussard, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

Robert J. Barham, Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

RESOLUTION

Adding Certain Licensed Property to the Little River Wildlife Management Area

Adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

WHEREAS, the Little River Wildlife Management Area was established by Proclamation of the Governor, dated September 27, 1989,

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, (LDWF), and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission through a Cooperative Venture Agreement (CVA) with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, (USACE) and the Red River Waterway Commission, (RRWC), have received a license to manage and maintain a certain tract of land comprising of 1,109.00 acres situated in Grant and Rapides Parishes and herein referred to as the Little River Mitigation Project Area.

WHEREAS, this property contains valuable wildlife habitat and its protection and proper management is critical to the State's conservation and wildlife management efforts,

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that in order to enhance the wildlife habitat in the state and provide for public use and recreational opportunities on these 1,109.00 acres of lands, including water bottoms, that they be selected and established as a wildlife management area and included in the Little River Wildlife Management Area, established by Proclamation of the Governor, dated September 27, 1989,

WHEREAS, it is the further recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission confirm and reaffirm that all state owned lands, including water bottoms, located within the property description of the Little River Wildlife Management Area, described in the Governor's Proclamation dated September 27, 1989 were previously selected and established as the Little River Wildlife Management Area.

WHEREAS, it is the further recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission select all State owned lands, including water bottoms, located within the 1,109.00 acre Little River Mitigation Project Area and all adjacent state owned water bottoms, be established as a wildlife management area and included in the Little River Wildlife Management Area.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana, particularly Title 56, Section 109 and Section 781 et seq. of

the Revised Statutes of 1954, does hereby confirm and reaffirm the selection and establishment of the Little River Mitigation Project Area, and select all land, including water bottoms, licensed on June 1, 2014 including adjacent lands and water bottoms owned by the state, and establish such lands, including water bottoms, as a wildlife management area to be added to and included in the Little River Wildlife Management Area, so that all land including water bottoms described in Exhibit A hereto, and identified on the attached map, (Exhibit B), including water bottoms, are included in the Little River Wildlife Management Area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this property shall be used exclusively for wildlife management purposes, and as such, is perpetually dedicated to the protection, conservation, and management of fish and wildlife and their habitat, and such public recreation, including, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, and trapping, which is consistent with these purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, on behalf of the Commission, to take all actions necessary in furtherance of this resolution.

Billy Broussard, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

Robert J. Barham, Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Consider a Declaration of Emergency on Fisheries Closures Due to the BP Oil Spill**, to be presented by Marty Bourgeois

Mr. Bourgeois stated The Deepwater Horizon drilling rig accident has resulted in a significant release of hydrocarbon pollutants into the waters offshore of southeast Louisiana and these pollutants have the potential to impact fish and other aquatic life in portions of these coastal waters. Efforts have been made and are continuing to be made to minimize the potential threats to fish and other aquatic life.

Mr. Bourgeois stated that this is a renewal of the existing declaration that is already in place and to avoid the closure from lapsing the DE is good for 120 days

There were no comments or questions heard. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Graham and seconded by Commissioner Manuel. Chairman Broussard called for a vote and the motion passed with no opposition

(The full text of this Declaration is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Closure
June 5, 2014

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953 of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:6.1, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby closes all commercial fishing, effective immediately June 5, 2014 in the following areas:

Those waters north of 28 degrees 56 minutes 30 seconds north latitude and south of 28 degrees 59 minutes 30 seconds north latitude from the eastern shore of Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River eastward to a line beginning at 28 degrees 59 minutes 30 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 19 minutes 50 seconds west longitude and ending at 28 degrees 56 minutes 30 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 23 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; and, those waters north of 29 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and south of 29 degrees 02 minutes 20 seconds north latitude from the western shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to -89 degrees 15 minutes 25 seconds west longitude; and, those waters north of 28 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds north latitude and south of 29 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds north latitude from the western shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River westward to -89 degrees 15 minutes 25 seconds west

longitude and southeastward along a line beginning at 29 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 15 minutes 25 seconds west longitude and ending at 28 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 10 minutes 15 seconds west longitude; and, those waters west of the western shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River south of 28 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds north latitude bounded by the following coordinates: 1) 28 degrees 59 minutes 15 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 08 minutes 15 seconds west longitude, 2) 28 degrees 58 minutes 20 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 10 minutes 00 seconds west longitude, 3) 28 degrees 59 minutes 01 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 11 minutes 00 seconds west longitude, 4) 28 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 10 minutes 15 seconds west longitude; and, those waters east of the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River and south of 29 degrees 01 minutes 50 seconds north latitude eastward to a line beginning at 29 degrees 01 minutes 50 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 07 minutes 20 seconds west longitude and ending at 28 degrees 59 minutes 35 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 08 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; and, those waters adjacent to but not including Northeast Pass and Southeast Pass of the Mississippi River and bounded by the following coordinates: 1) 29 degrees 08 minutes 35 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 04 minutes 20 seconds west longitude, 2) 29 degrees 08 minutes 15 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 02 minutes 10

seconds west longitude, 3) 29 degrees 04 minutes 50 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 04 minutes 10 seconds west longitude, 4) 29 degrees 05 minutes 30 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 05 minutes 10 seconds west longitude; and, those waters south and west of Pass a Loutre of the Mississippi River and east of -89 degrees 05 minutes 35 seconds west longitude bounded by the following coordinates: 1) 29 degrees 11 minutes 25 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 03 minutes 30 seconds west longitude, 2) 29 degrees 11 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 02 minutes 25 seconds west longitude, 3) 29 degrees 09 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 05 minutes 35 seconds west longitude, 4) 29 degrees 11 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 05 minutes 35 seconds west longitude; and, those waters south of North Pass of the Mississippi River bounded by the following coordinates: 1) 29 degrees 11 minutes 35 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 02 minutes 55 seconds west longitude, 2) 29 degrees 12 minutes 35 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 01 minutes 05 seconds west longitude, 3) 29 degrees 11 minutes 35 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 01 minutes 10 seconds west longitude, 4) 29 degrees 11 minutes 10 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; and, those state inside and outside waters adjacent to Grand Terre Island bounded by the following coordinates: 1) 29 degrees 18 minutes 20 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds west longitude, 2) 29 degrees 17 minutes 10 seconds north latitude and -89

degrees 53 minutes 50 seconds west longitude, 3) 29 degrees 15 minutes 40 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 56 minutes 00 seconds west longitude, 4) 29 degrees 17 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 57 minutes 20 seconds west longitude; and, those state inside waters in the upper Barataria Basin north of 29 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and south of 29 degrees 29 minutes 00 seconds north latitude from -89 degrees 50 minutes 00 seconds west longitude westward to -89 degrees 57 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; and, that portion of state outside waters seaward a distance of one-half mile from the inside/outside shrimp line from the western shore of Caminada Pass at -90 degrees 02 minutes 46.597 seconds west longitude westward to the eastern shore of Belle Pass at -90 degrees 13 minutes 30 seconds west longitude; and that portion of state outside waters seaward a distance of one-half mile from the shoreline from the southwestern shore of Grand Terre Island 2 at -89 degrees 54 minutes 04 seconds west longitude; thence eastward along the shoreline to the southeastern shore of Grand Terre Island 2 at -89 degrees 51 minutes 39 seconds west longitude; thence eastward along 29 degrees 18 minutes 46 seconds north latitude to -89 degrees 51 minutes 19 seconds west longitude.

Recreational fishing is open in all state inside and outside territorial waters, except in the following areas, where only recreational angling, charter boat angling and the harvest of bait by wholesale/retail seafood dealers who hold a special bait dealers

permit and who harvest bait for sale to recreational fishermen exclusively, pursuant to the provisions of LAC 76:VII.329 is allowed: those state inside and outside waters adjacent to Grand Terre Island bounded by the following coordinates: 1) 29 degrees 18 minutes 20 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds west longitude, 2) 29 degrees 17 minutes 10 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 53 minutes 50 seconds west longitude, 3) 29 degrees 15 minutes 40 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 56 minutes 00 seconds west longitude, 4) 29 degrees 17 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and -89 degrees 57 minutes 20 seconds west longitude; and, those state inside waters in the upper Barataria Basin north of 29 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and south of 29 degrees 29 minutes 00 seconds north latitude from -89 degrees 50 minutes 00 seconds west longitude westward to -89 degrees 57 minutes 00 seconds west longitude; and, that portion of state outside waters seaward a distance of one-half mile from the inside/outside shrimp line from the western shore of Caminada Pass at -90 degrees 02 minutes 46.597 seconds west longitude westward to the eastern shore of Belle Pass at -90 degrees 13 minutes 30 seconds west longitude; and, those state outside waters seaward a distance of one-half mile from the shoreline from the southwestern shore of Grand Terre Island 2 at -89 degrees 54 minutes 04 seconds west longitude; thence eastward along the shoreline to the southeastern shore of Grand Terre Island 2 at -89 degrees 51 minutes 39 seconds west longitude; thence eastward along 29 degrees 18 minutes

46 seconds north latitude to -89 degrees 51 minutes 19 seconds west longitude.

The Deepwater Horizon drilling rig accident has resulted in a significant release of hydrocarbon pollutants into the waters offshore of southeast Louisiana and these pollutants have the potential to impact fish and other aquatic life in portions of these coastal waters. Efforts have been made and are continuing to be made to minimize the potential threats to fish and other aquatic life.

The Commission hereby grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to open, close, reopen-reclose, broaden or otherwise modify the areas closed and opened to fishing if biological, environmental and technical data indicate the need to do so, or as needed to effectively implement the provisions herein.

Billy Broussard

Chairman

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Hear a General Overview of the Upcoming 2014 Dove Season Rules and Regulations**, to be presented by Jeff Duguay

In 2008 an interim mourning dove harvest management strategy for the eastern management unit (of which Louisiana is a part) was implemented. This short-term harvest strategy was designed to use all available data to assess the status of the mourning dove population annually during the next 5 years and to recommend changes in harvest regulations in the event of a significant change in mourning dove abundance. The strategy was not intended to be in place beyond the 2013 mourning dove hunting season.

Beginning with the 2014-15 mourning dove hunting season a new harvest strategy is being implemented. This mourning dove harvest strategy is based on the mourning dove population as determined by HIP data, banding data, and the parts collection survey. Should the predicted lower bound of the 70% credible interval fall to 36.5 million doves then a restrictive season will be implemented. The predicted population abundance is currently at 94.4 million mourning doves, with the lower bound of the 70% credible interval at 76.8 million mourning doves. As a result, the standard regulatory package (90-day season and 15-bird daily bag limit) will be adopted for the 2014-15 mourning dove hunting season. This is a 20-day increase in the mourning dove season over last year. Given this, LDWF implemented an on-line survey of mourning dove hunters to determine preference for where the additional 20 days of mourning dove hunting should be placed. Additionally, the survey contained questions on when to open the first day of dove hunting, 01 September or the first Saturday in September, and whether to open the mourning dove season at 12 noon, as has been the tradition, or to open ½ hour before sunrise which is allowed according to the federal framework. The survey results indicate that for the north zone the dates for the 2014-15 mourning dove season should be as follows:

- September 6 – 28 (extra 7 days)
- October 11 – November 9
- December 10 – January 15 (13 extra days)

For the south zone the dates for the 2014-15 mourning dove season should be as follows:

- September 6 – 14
- October 11 – December 3 (10 extra days)
- December 20 – January 15 (10 extra days)

Survey respondents indicated that opening the first Saturday in September (74% of respondents) is preferable to opening September 1 (26% of respondents).

The majority (59%) of respondents prefer to open mourning dove season ½ hour before sunrise, while 29% prefer a 12 noon opening and 12% have no preference.

It will therefore be recommended at the July Commission meeting that the aforementioned dates for the north and south zones be implemented and that the mourning dove season open ½ hour before sunrise.

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Have a Discussion on What Effects Changes to the Current Management Regulations will have on Red Drum and Spotted Sea Trout Stocks**, to be presented by Randy Pausina

Mr. Pausina began by stating that in 2005, Texas Commission received comments to drop the creel limits on Spotted Sea Trout.

LA Wildlife and Fisheries has no biological issues with dropping the creel limits, but stated it is more of a social issue.

He further stated that the potential does exist to reduce size limits on red drum as 15 to 16 inch drum are prevalent due to the cold winter weather and the fish are bunched up in canals. There are no issues biologically with this recommendation

Commissioner Taylor would like to consider dropping the size of Redfish and Trout

Mr. Pausina stated the department can create a matrix table to help with decision making to the Commissioners to move a size limit or creel limit Spawning Potential Ration (SPR)

Red Drum regulations have been in place since 1985. A full assessment has not been done in a long time

Commissioner Broussard asked if there was a need to amend the agenda and make this a motion item. The conversation in part led to a statement that for next meeting, a Resolution for WLF to create a sliding scale Matrix for Red Drum and Speckled Trout would be addressed.

David Cresson with CCA stated CCA was setting up a meeting in West side of the Parish (Calcasieu) to discuss these matters

Commissioner Manuel asked if an Economic Study could be run and Mr Pausina stated that WLF has a Socio-Economics Department and this would be done.

Commissioner Taylor asked for an estimation or time frame and Mr Pausina stated it could probably be done in a couple of months. He also stated that the last time it was ran was 2010.

Commissioner Taylor asked how long for a Red Drum Study and Mr Pausina stated four (4) months. Ms. Taylor asked if it would be better to separate the two and Mr Pausina agreed that it would.

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Hear a Report on the LDWF Aquatic Plant Control Program**, to be presented by Alex Perret

Mr. Perret began with a Power Point Presentation

Invasive Aquatic Plants in Louisiana

Plant	1 st Year	Acres of Infestation				
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Water Hyacinth	1884	122,153	102,120	96,130	65,275	89,810
Hydrilla	1975	89,692	75,550	62,800	37,725	47,618
Common Salvinia	1980	190,598	101,980	44,310	46,410	33,960
Giant Salvinia	1998	17,292	8,415	38,805	52,400	45,354

Acreage of Aquatic Plants Treated by LDWF

FY 06/07 -30,653 acres

FY 07/08 -61,000 acres

FY 08/09 – 67,951 acres

FY 09/10 -75,021 acres

FY 10/11- 55,609 acres

FY 11/12- 66,944 acres

FY 12/13- 89,324 acres

FY 13/14- 66,324* acres as of 4/10/14

Methods Used for Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Chemical: LDWF and Private Contractors

Mechanical: Drawdowns and Restrictive Booms

Biological: Species-specific Control

Lake Bistineau

Northwest Louisiana

Cypress swamp

17,000 acres

Giant salvinia appeared in 2006

As much as 8,500 acres



Lake Bistineau Giant Salvinia Control

2012-2013

LDWF	4,013 acres
Contractor Spraying	10,208 acres by boat 580 acres by helicopter
Weevil Stocking	149,300 weevils
Control Boom	Near the Port of Bistineau
Drawdowns	August 2012-January 2013 July – November 30, 2013

Future Plans

- Continue spray efforts
- Research new herbicides and mixtures
- Continue weevil stocking and research
 - Develop cold-tolerant weevil
- Use drawdowns as Needed
 - Possibility of increasing capability

Henderson Lake, South Central LA

Cypress Swamp
5,000 acres

- Recreation
- Tourism

Water Hyacinth

- Long Term Problem

Limited Options

- 2, 4-D
- LDWF Crews
- ACOE RAG Program

Water Hyacinth Control

2011-2013

LDWF Spraying

- 12,080 acres by boat

Contractor Spraying

- 5,450 acres by boat
- 360 acres by air

New Plant Issues

- Hydrilla Explosion
- Common and Giant Salvinia

Water Hyacinth Control

Future Plans

- Continue Spray Efforts
 - Hyacinth
 - Giant Salvinia

Stock Biological Controls

- Weevils for Salvinia

TGC for hydrilla
Drawdowns : Recommended 3 consecutive years

Spring Bayou: Central LA

- Impounded Swamp
- 2,718 Acres
 - Recreation
- Large Shallow Flats
 - Siltation
- Plants limit Access
- Historical Controls
 - Not effective

2013

- LDWF Spraying 2,740 acres
- Contractor Spraying 300 acres by air
- Boat Lanes 19 acres
- Triploid Grass Carp 13,600 in 2013

Future Plans

- Chemical Control
 - Routine Spraying
 - Lotus aerial spraying
 - Hydrilla Control near ramps
- Grass Carp Stocking
 - 2014 and 2015
- Drawdowns
 - Dredging Needed

Evaluating Other Methods

- Machines
 - WaterMower
 - Bucket Boat
 - Mashers
- New Herbicides and Mixes
 - Flumioxazin
 - Carfentrazone
 - Endocide
- Biological
 - Cold tolerant weevils
 - Pathogens

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Consider a Notice of Intent to Increase the Possession Limit for Saltwater Finfish Landed at Port Eads and Transported to Land**, to be presented by Cole Garrett

Mr. Garrett began by stating that the Port Eads Marina is over 100 years old and was totally wiped out and a total loss after Hurricane Katrina. FEMA has invested over 15 million dollars for the rebuild of the Port Eads Marina.

The Port Eads Marina is in a remote area, and only accessible by water.

This proposed ruling states:

Possession Limit: Notwithstanding possession limits established elsewhere in this Chapter, for the purpose of transporting fish to a land based facility the possession limit for saltwater finfish caught recreationally in Louisiana territorial waters or in the adjacent Federal Exclusive Economic Zone and landed at Port Eads Marina shall be equal to the daily take limit for the number of consecutive days, up to three times the daily creel limit, that a fisherman has been lodging at the Port Eads Marina facility, provided the fisherman is in compliance with the following requirements:

1. The fisherman holds and is in possession of all current recreational fishing licenses required.
2. The fisherman is in possession of and can provide a receipt issued by the Port Eads Marina facility that demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the department, the number of consecutive days that the fisherman has been lodging at the Port Eads Marina Facility.
3. Upon landing his or her daily catch at the Port Eads Marina, the fisherman shall notify the Wildlife and Fisheries employee, agent, or designated person on duty at the facility, and provide his or her catch for inspection and certification that the species, size and daily creel are within legal limits.
4. The fish are kept in separate bags for each daily take limit. The bags are marked with the date fish were taken, the species and number of fish contained in the bag, and the name and recreational fishing license number of the person taking the fish. The contents of the bags have been certified by the Wildlife and Fisheries employee, agent, or designated person on duty at the facility.

5. The fisherman is only in possession of his or her fish and shall not transport fish taken by another person back to the boat landing.

6. No person aboard the vessel may be engaged in or actively fishing.

Commissioner Davis asked the question, “How does Enforcement feel about this rule”?

Mr. Garrett stated that he and the Fisheries staff have worked closely with the Enforcement Staff to create this rule.

There were no other comments or questions heard. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Manuel and seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Chairman Broussard called for a vote and the motion passed with no opposition

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby advertise their intent increase the possession limit on the water for recreational saltwater finfish landed by individuals lodging at the Port Eads Marina facility.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishery

§381. Possession Limits for Saltwater Recreational Finfish Landed at Port Eads Marina

A. Purpose: The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission recognizes that the Port Eads Marina in Plaquemines Parish is a remote fishing destination, only accessible by water, and that recreational fishermen may fish out of that facility for several consecutive days. In order to transport fish from the remote Port Eads Marina facility back to a location accessible by land, a recreational fisherman may have a need to possess a limit on the water greater than what is allowed by general statewide possession limits for saltwater recreational finfish.

B. Possession Limit: Notwithstanding possession limits established elsewhere in this Chapter, for the purpose of transporting fish to a land based facility the possession limit for saltwater finfish caught recreationally in Louisiana territorial waters or in the adjacent Federal Exclusive Economic Zone and landed at Port Eads Marina shall be equal to the daily take limit for the number of consecutive days, up to three times the daily creel limit, that a fisherman has been lodging at the Port Eads Marina facility, provided the fisherman is in compliance with the following requirements:

1. The fisherman holds and is in possession of all current recreational fishing licenses required.

2. The fisherman is in possession of and can provide a receipt issued by the Port Eads Marina facility that demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the department, the number of consecutive days that the fisherman has been lodging at the Port Eads Marina Facility.

3. Upon landing his or her daily catch at the Port Eads Marina, the fisherman shall notify the Wildlife and Fisheries employee, agent, or designated person on duty at the facility, and provide his or her catch for inspection and certification that the species, size and daily creel are within legal limits.

4. The fish are kept in separate bags for each daily take limit. The bags are marked with the date fish were taken, the species and number of fish contained in the bag, and the name and recreational fishing license number of the person taking the fish. The contents of the bags have been certified by the Wildlife and Fisheries employee, agent, or designated person on duty at the facility.

5. The fisherman is only in possession of his or her fish and shall not transport fish taken by another person back to the boat landing.

6. No person aboard the vessel may be engaged in or actively fishing.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325.1, and R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR (June 2014).

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S.49:973.

The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statement, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

In accordance with Act No. 1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issue its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent.

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule to Jason Adriance, Marine Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, or jadriance@wlf.la.gov prior to August 1, 2014.

Billy Broussard

Chairman

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Set the October 2014 Meeting Date**

A discussion took place and the meeting is set for October 2, 2014. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Graham and seconded by Commissioner Davis. Chairman Broussard called for a vote and the motion passed with no opposition.

Chairman Broussard announced the next item, **To Hear Public Comments**,
There were none heard

There being no further business, Chairman Broussard **Adjourned** the meeting

Billy Broussard, Chairman